

Highlights

- Over 1.6 million Syrian have been registered as refugees since the conflict began.
- 1787 cases of influenza-like illness and 44 new cases of measles have been reported by the early warning and reporting system (EWARS) in Syria from 9 to 22 June.
- Over 81 448 Syrian children have been immunized against measles in Jordan
- 6 new cases of measles have been confirmed in Lebanon.
- All camp-based Syrian refugees in Iraq have been transferred to Al-Obaidy refugee camp.



A young girl is vaccinated against measles in the Irbid governorate of Jordan

Health situation

Syrian Arab Republic

- From 9 to 22 June, EWARS sentinel sites¹ received 140 623 consultations across the country, of which 5349 were reported. Some of these reported consultations included:
 - 1787 cases of influenza-like illness (accounting for 33.4% of the total consultations);
 - 1717 cases of acute diarrhoea;
 - 44 cases of measles (30 cases in Aleppo alone);
 - 13 cases of bloody diarrhoea;
 - 5 cases of meningitis;
 - During week 24, 332 cases of leishmaniasis were reported (56% in Hama and 37% in Aleppo). 62% of the cases were reported among above the 5-year age group;
 - 112 cases of brucellosis;
 - 15 cases of tuberculosis;
 - 6 cases of typhoid.

Figure 1 shows proportional morbidity for the top 4 diseases in Syria.

Figure 2 shows trend analysis for suspected measles cases reported from Ministry of Health EWARS sites in Syria, EWARS reporting weeks 13–25.

¹ During week 24, 12 out of the 14 governorates reported (no data were received from Ar-Raqqa and Dar'a). During week 25, 12 out of the 14 governorates reported (no data were received from Ar-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor).

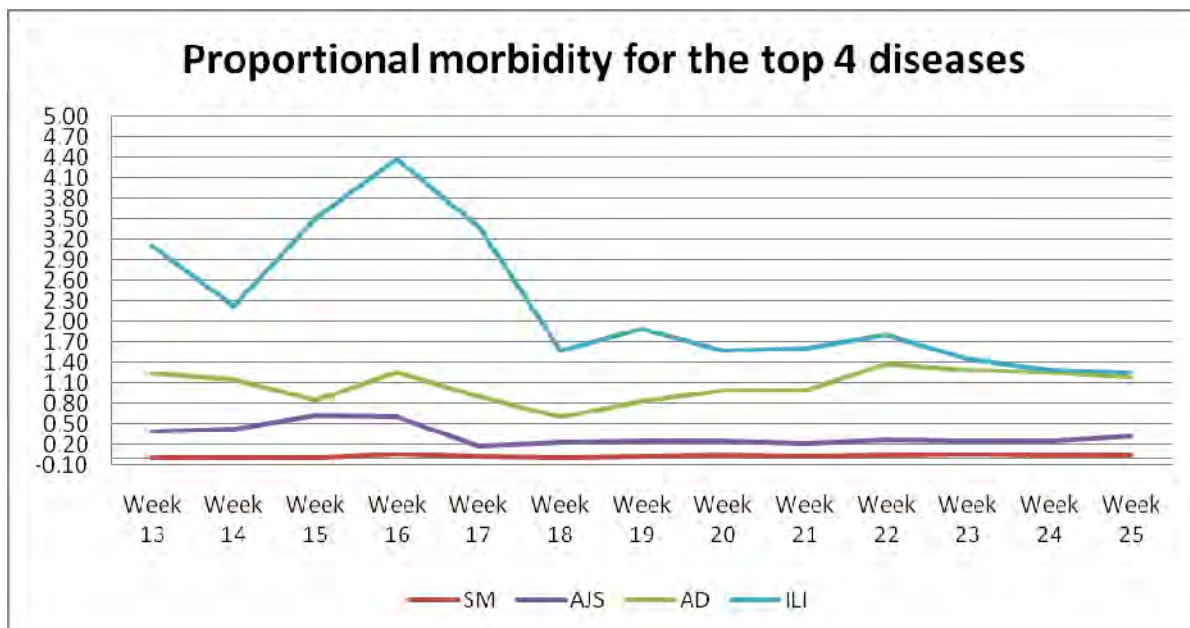


Figure 1. Proportional morbidity for the top 4 diseases in Syria

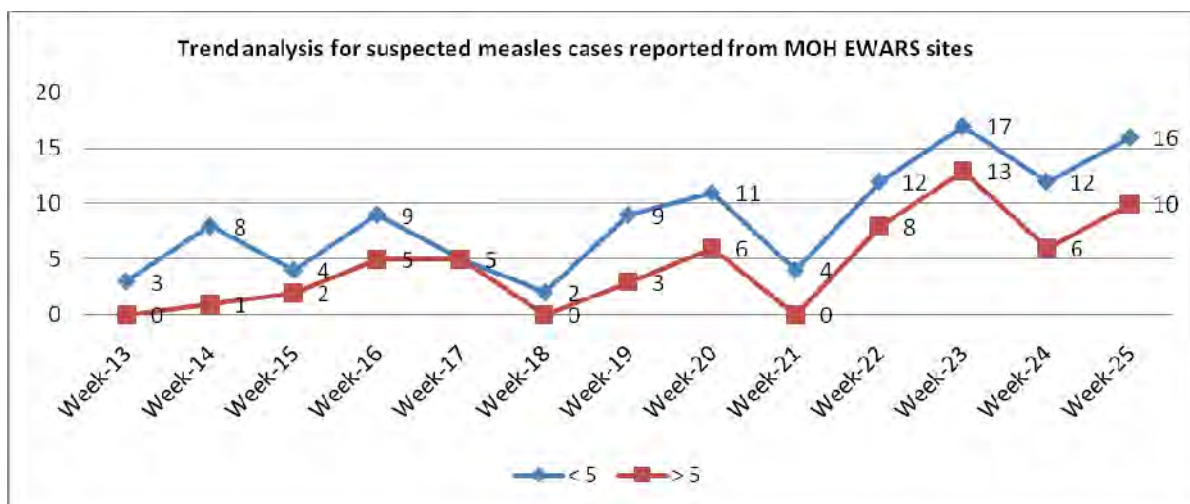


Figure 2. Trend analysis for suspected measles cases reported from Ministry of Health EWARS sites in Syria, EWARS reporting weeks 13–25

Iraq

- As of 3 July, the total number of Syrian refugees registered with the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reached 159 465.
- 2222 consultations were reported by EWARS during the reporting period.
- The most common diseases reported in Iraq were respiratory tract infections with 737 cases confirmed in the reporting period. There were also 221 cases of diarrhoea.
- All refugees have been relocated to Al-Obaidy refugee camp, as have all services, including health services.

Jordan

- The Government of Jordan estimates that there are over 600 000 Syrians currently within its borders.
- In Al Zaatari refugee camp, EWARS reported the most common disease was upper respiratory tract infection with 1456 cases confirmed in the reporting period. EWARS also reported:

- 385 cases of watery diarrhoea
- 215 cases of acute jaundice syndrome
- 213 cases of lower respiratory tract infection
- 171 cases of influenza like-illness
- 2189 other diseases.
- Similarly, in Al Zaatari refugee camp, UNHCR reported:
 - 314 cases of diabetes
 - 264 cases of asthma
 - 261 cases of hypertension
 - 87 cases of ischaemic heart disease
 - 48 cases of thyroid problems.
- The Ministry of Health stated that 10 children (9 Jordanian and 1 Syrian) in Madaba and Karak were diagnosed with acute haemorrhagic fever with rash, resulting in the death of 2 Jordanian children. The Ministry Of Health's central public health laboratory confirmed that this was Rocky Mountain spotted fever attributable to *Rickettsia spp.* The Ministry of Health administered a treatment of doxycycline.

Lebanon

- Over 550 000 Syrian refugees have registered with UNHCR.
- 6 cases of measles have been reported in Lebanon. Since the start of 2013 there have been 1251 reported cases. WHO, the Ministry of Public Health and UNHCR also reported:
 - 7 cases of viral hepatitis
 - 6 cases of food poisoning
 - 2 cases of typhoid
 - 1 case of mumps
 - 1 case of leprosy.
- 9 cases of cutaneous leishmaniasis and 3 cases of visceral leishmaniasis have been confirmed throughout Lebanon during the reporting period.

Health response

Syrian Arab Republic

- During the second quarter of 2013:
 - WHO supported the delivery of basic health supplies, including life-saving, communicable and noncommunicable disease medicines, interagency emergency supplementary and basic health kits, surgical supply kits and burn kits for a population of 270 500 in Homs, including opposition-controlled areas, Dar'a, Damascus and Deir ez-Zor through the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) and health authorities.
 - WHO delivered surgical supplies, diarrhoea and blood-testing kits, burn kits, reproductive health medicines and health kits. WHO also delivered essential medicines for the treatment of injuries, noncommunicable diseases and communicable diseases. These supplies reached 654 499 individuals in Homs, Dar'a, Deir ez-Zor and Damascus.
 - WHO continued to support local health nongovernmental organizations to provide health care delivery in both affected government- and opposition-controlled areas.
 - WHO-supported nongovernmental organizations provided 42 982 treatments/consultations for communicable and noncommunicable diseases, reproductive health and surgical interventions.
- Prompted by EWARS reporting, WHO and its health sector partners undertook the following response measures.

- All bloody diarrhoea cases were managed with antibiotics.
- A case of meningitis reported in As-Sweida National Hospital was promptly managed, investigation forms were filled and contacts were treated with antibiotics.
- The cases of leishmaniasis, brucellosis, and tuberculosis were managed promptly, medicines provided and sanitation measures implemented.
- Water testing was performed in Hama and Tartous to determine bacterial contamination and cases of bloody diarrhoea cases were managed with antibiotics.
- The cases of meningitis reported in As-Sweida National Hospital were managed, investigation forms were filled and contacts were treated with antibiotics.
- Between 21 June and 7 July:
 - In cooperation with the Ministry of Health in Damascus, WHO supplied essential and communicable disease medicines to treat more than 93 450 beneficiaries. 50 burn kits, targeting 1500 beneficiaries, were also supplied.
 - WHO supplied the National Public Laboratory in Damascus with various types of supplies and diagnostic kits, (portable autoclave, enzymes for hepatitis DNA quantification kits, HIV EIA kits, tissue culture flask and centrifuge tubs).
 - The Ministry of Higher Education in Damascus was supplied with life-saving medicines to treat more than 15 350 beneficiaries. Burn kits were also provided to treat more than 3000 beneficiaries.
 - The National Blood Bank in Damascus has been provided with blood test kits and consumables. WHO-supported nongovernmental organizations also provided 42 982 treatments/consultations for communicable and noncommunicable diseases, reproductive health and surgical interventions.
- WHO is supporting the Palestinian Health Charity Association that is assisting Palestinians and Syrians in Yarmouk Palestinian Camp in Damascus. The Association reported:
 - 3250 patients were reached during the first phase of the project (January–March 2013).
 - 700 were assisted with natural childbirth;
 - 300 were provided with C-section;
 - 1500 patients were treated for emergency and trauma;
 - 200 for emergency surgical care;
 - 750 for noncommunicable diseases.
 - WHO also supplied the nongovernmental organization with: ligasure vessel sealing equipment, a steam sterilizer, an obstetric labour table and intensive care ward beds.
- WHO, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, conducted a workshop for 42 focal points from 12 governorates who are responsible for collecting EWARS data. Participants were trained on the newly established EWARS database system, which aims to automate the data entry process and improve timely submission of EWARS data from sentinel sites.
- WHO and the Ministry of Health conducted two training courses between 30 June and 3 July on community-based management of acute malnutrition for 54 pediatricians and 2 health workers from 11 governorates to strengthen their knowledge and skills in the early detection and treatment of moderate and severe acute malnutrition.
- UNICEF is currently supporting the medical team of the Syrian Family Planning Association in serving internally-displaced persons (IDPs) in the Hasya district of Homs who fled the conflict in al-Qusayr area.

- The UNICEF-supported 50 mobile medical teams in 12 governorates and the fixed centres in Damascus, rural Damascus and Quneitra were able to reach 138 410 children with medical check-ups since the beginning of 2013. UNICEF's target is to reach 570 000 internally-displaced children by the end of this year.
- UNICEF continues to dispatch health supplies, recently, 60 interagency emergency health kits units were delivered to partners to cover the need of 60 000 beneficiaries, 10 of which were delivered to al-Kisweh area in rural Damascus through the Circassian Charity Society, and 50 were delivered to Hama Directorate of Health. 5 diarrhoea kits were also delivered to the Department of Health in Hama which is sufficient for 3000 diarrhoea cases.
- International Medical Corps (IMC), in coordination with SARC, has been responding to health, mental health and psychosocial needs of IDPs since early 2012. From 21 June to 4 July 2013 the following beneficiaries were reached:
 - 2 static clinics (Barzeh and Jaramana in rural Damascus): a total of 3018 consultations were provided; 627 to IDPs. Top morbidities included acute respiratory infections (ARIs), diabetes and hypertension.
 - 2 medical mobile teams (covering 9 shelters inside Damascus): a total of 816 consultations were provided to IDPs. Top morbidities included ARIs.
 - 2 medical mobile units (covering non-official shelters and locations in the suburbs of Damascus): a total of 824 consultations were provided of which 385 were provided to IDPs. Top morbidities included ARIs and hypertension.
 - 24 hygiene kits were distributed in one shelter and 225 hygiene kits to Iraqis through two clinics.
 - Cleaning materials for environmental hygiene were distributed in 9 shelters.
 - 558 bottles of lice shampoo were donated to 2 communal shelters.
 - 300 children's diapers were donated to two communal shelters.
- The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) has established 6 health points in Damascus and one in Aleppo to provide health services for refugees in IDP centres. The total number of consultations for the following months was:
 - March: 3508 consultations
 - April: 4833 consultations
 - May: 4244 consultations
 - Surveillance of infectious diseases is a contentious process. No epidemics were reported during the reporting period.
- 840 women residing in Damascus, rural Damascus, Idleb and Hama were provided with psychosocial support services/psychological first aid services by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)-supported mobile teams and clinics.
- 180 cases of gender-based violence were assisted and provided with the required services, including medical consultation and community services by the UNFPA-supported SFPA clinic.
- UNFPA, in cooperation with implementing partners, delivered 3000 female kits and 1005 male kits to cross-fire areas in Hama.
- 5800 women received reproductive health services, including emergency obstetric care through the UNFPA-assisted maternal hospitals and mobile teams functioning in Damascus, rural Damascus and Aleppo.
- 2400 women received emergency obstetric care, including normal and C-section delivery services through the use of reproductive health vouchers that enabled them to access health care free of charge.
- UNFPA delivered 10 000 intravenous fluids to Damascus Hospital, the main Ministry of Health hospital in Damascus serving IDP women.
- UNFPA organized a workshop for 25 participants of implementing partners to enhance their capacity in monitoring humanitarian response.

Iraq

- A team of five WHO communicable disease specialists conducted a health assessment to identify additional technical support needs and extra provisions of medicine. Additionally, the team also held a series of meetings with senior officials from the Ministry of Health, UNFPA, UNICEF and UNHCR. These meetings took place in Irbil. The specialist team also assessed the capacity of some public health laboratory primary health care centres (specifically those that receive patients from Syrian refugees). The assessment visit concluded that:
 - WHO Iraq should continue to provide technical support to build the capacity of health providers dealing with epidemics and emergency crises in the refugee setting.
 - WHO Iraq should continue to provide medicines and health supplies, including health kits, and medicines for chronic conditions, including for cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, mental disorders and medicines for the management of acute watery diarrhoea.
- The Ministry of Health reports that the main primary health care centre in Domiz camp is now equipped with a laboratory. This laboratory, which was established with the support of Médecins Sans Frontières, has the capacity to analyse stool samples for the detection of cholera.
- From 1 to 2 July, WHO Iraq conducted a 2-day training session on triage for 20 participants from the Ministry of Health, Médecins Sans Frontières, Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) and Islamic Relief.
- From 28 to 29 July, WHO Iraq conducted a 2-day training session on health information systems for 25 participants from the Ministry of Health, Médecins Sans Frontières and UNHCR.
- WHO Iraq recently completed EWARS and diarrheal disease outbreak and case management training. Attended by health professionals from the Ministry of Health/Kurdistan Regional Government, and the Ministry of Health of Iraq, selected governorate-based departments of health, and partners from nongovernmental organizations and UN agencies specifically focused on health care for Syrian refugees.
- UNICEF conducted a nutritional assessment in Domiz camp (20–23 May). 5.3% of individuals were believed to have wasting (6.7% of males, 3.7% of females). 9% were believed to be underweight (9% of males, 8.4% of females) and 18% believed to be stunted (17.8% of males, 18.3% of females). Malnutrition results of the assessment by ages are given in Figure 3.

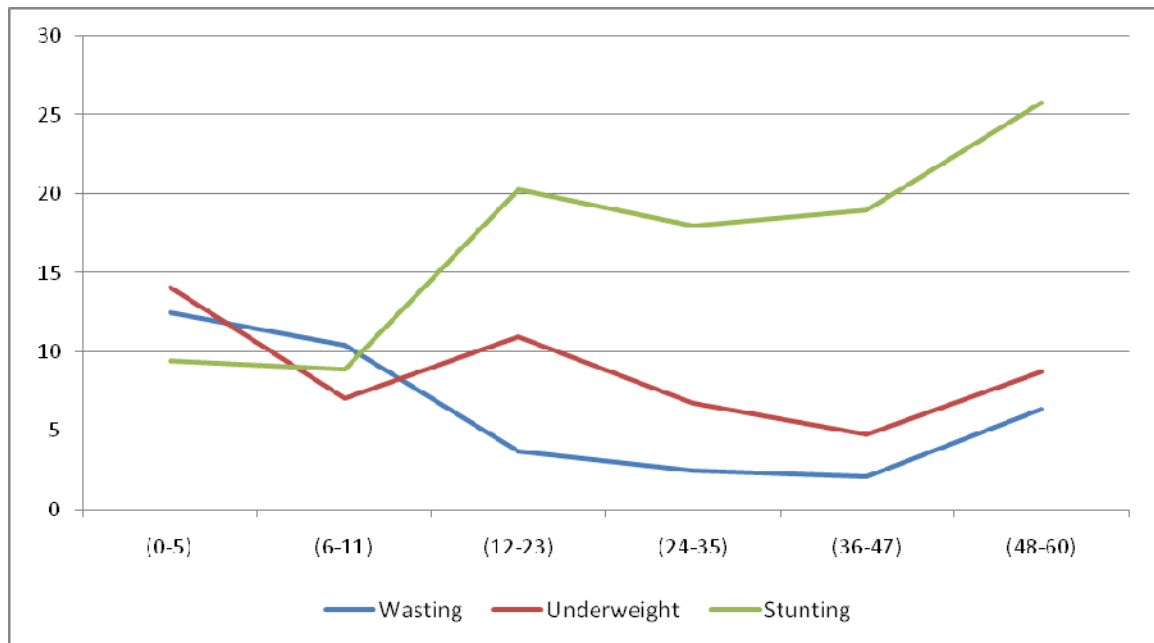


Figure 3. Malnutrition results of the assessment conducted in Domiz camp, Iraq, 20–23 May 2013

Jordan

- WHO Jordan, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health UNICEF, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and UNHCR, completed the comprehensive vaccination campaign. 622 745 children aged between 6 months and 15 years were immunized against measles. This campaign took place in the northern governorates of Irbid and Mafrq.

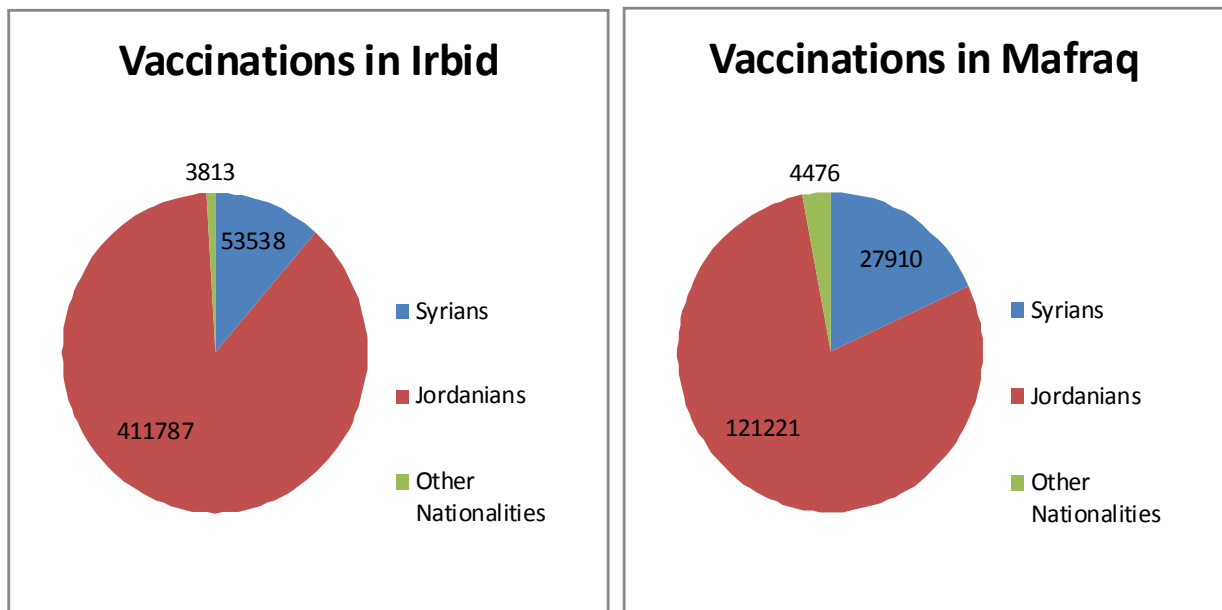


Figure 4. Numbers of Syrians, Jordanians and other nationalities vaccinated in Irbid and Mafrq.

- Case management guidelines and precautionary information were promptly issued by the Ministry of Health in response to the Rocky Mountain spotted fever outbreak. The Ministry of Agriculture was requested to send joint Ministry of Health and Ministry of

Agriculture veterinary teams to investigate the possibility of animal reservoir and agent in the domestic animals with which most cases were in close contact. Ministry of Health confirmed that the outbreak is now under control.

- Médecine Du Monde opened a new field clinic in Al Zaatari refugee camp.
- Médecins Sans Frontières opened a new pediatric field hospital in Al Zaatari refugee camp.
- WHO Jordan in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, and CDC facilitated the Jordan enhanced disease surveillance workshop between 2 and 4 July. The 45 participants (from the Ministry of Health, all governorate surveillance focal points, university hospitals and the Royal Medical Services) were briefed on the Jordan enhanced disease surveillance status and implementation plans were presented. 45 participants attended the workshop.
- On 7 July a national workshop for health care personnel in hospitals Response to Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) workshop was held. Organized by WHO and the Ministry of Health, this workshop included 58 participants from hospitals and health care facilities. Six facilitators and three assistants from the Ministry of Health were also in attendance. Preparedness, surveillance, infection control, isolation precautions and laboratory testing were discussed with a view to augmenting response capacity in targeted settings.

Lebanon

- WHO Lebanon, in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health and UNHCR, vaccinated over 1500 Syrian children (18 years and younger) against measles and polio. This campaign took place in national primary health care facilities.
- Approximately 8000 Syrian refugees received primary health care through UNHCR-supported health facilities across Lebanon.
- Approximately 8000 Syrian refugees received primary health care through Ministry of Public Health facilities across Lebanon.
- Approximately 1200 Syrian refugees received hospital care through one of the 23 UNHCR-supported hospitals.
- More than 2400 Syrian refugees received free health care through UNICEF/UNHCR mobile medical units.
- WHO Lebanon, in collaboration with other health sector partners, established a WASH (waterborne disease) task force.
- The Ministry of Public Health administered 248 Syrian refugees with the leishmaniasis preventative medicine – glucantime. The medicine was distributed in the Ministry of Public Health's leishmaniasis clinics.
- WHO Lebanon replenished the Ministry of Public Health's stock of vaccines for routine vaccination. This included; 800 vials/doses of anti-rabies vaccines, 25 vials/doses of anti-rabies immuno-globulins, and 400 vials/doses of anti-snake venom.

Coordination

Syrian Arab Republic

- On 8 July the revised health indicators were approved by health partners.
- The summer plan was expanded to incorporate health partners' activities.
- Available medicines and kits are currently being mapped. These provisions have been prepositioned in the Syrian governorates as part of ongoing outbreak preparedness measures.
- The operational plan for cholera preparedness was finalized and shared with WHO Syria health sector partners.

- The development of a contingency plan for Aleppo was initiated through a participatory and inclusive joint planning process. The health sector played an active role in the intersectoral joint planning to draft the response plan, operational support plan, cost plan and preparedness plan specific to the health situation and needs in Aleppo.

Iraq

- WHO Iraq continues to co-chair the monthly coordination meetings in Dohuk and the weekly camp management team meetings.

Jordan

- During the reporting period, along with WHO Jordan's regular health sector working group, the country team also participated in:
 - A hospital information system meeting chaired by the Minister of Health and Environment, in collaboration with WHO, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and other partners. This meeting was part of the initiative to transform Jordan's paper-based health information system into an electronic one with a view to reducing response time, errors, personnel costs and to facilitate decision-making. A small task force was created to elaborate the strategic framework to be presented in a next month's meeting.



Officials from WHO Iraq meet with health sector partners in Domiz refugee camp.



WHO Representative for Jordan and partners from other health sector agencies meet for the Jordan enhanced disease surveillance project workshop.

- WHO Jordan established a new partnership with The Eastern Mediterranean Health Network (Emphnet). The Emphnet team is working closely with WHO Jordan to train Ministry of Health, health workers and health partners in Jordan, in public health emergency preparedness and response, communicable disease control, surveillance skills. This training will continue until December 2013.
- WHO Jordan completed data collection phase of mental health assessment for Syrians. Led by the Ministry of Health, WHO, International Medical Corps (IMC) and Emphnet, this data collection took place in Al Zaatari, Amman, Mafraq, Ramtha and Irbid. Activities included a key stakeholders' meeting, and a 3-day training session on the WHO Quality Rights ToolKit
- Led by the Ministry of Health, WHO, UNHCR, UNICEF and UNFPA, the data collection for the health facility assessment in the Mafraq, Irbid, Ajloun, Jerash, and Zarqa was completed.

Lebanon

- Health sector agencies agreed:
 - to share all information concerning mobile medical units;
 - to improve health education in local communities, particularly through the distribution of advocacy material, specifically focusing on hygiene, safe drinking-water, and mental health;
 - to investigate the recent increase in miscarriages among Syrian refugees;
 - all partners would share the components of antenatal service packages with each other.
- WHO Lebanon conducted a number of health awareness sessions. Carried out throughout Lebanon, these sessions permitted discussion on topics such as: hygiene, mental health and gender-based violence. Over 1700 Syrians participated in these sessions.
- The World Food Programme (WFP), in collaboration with WHO Lebanon, recently carried out a vulnerability assessment. Preliminary results indicate:
 - 38.9% of household members have specific needs
 - 32.6% of whom have chronic illnesses
 - 32.2% are pregnant or lactating women
 - 13.9% have a disability.

Donors and funding

Appeal document	Country of operation	Total requested by health sector (US\$)	Total requested by WHO (US\$)	Amount received by WHO, including pledges** (US\$)	% of overall amount requested by WHO	WHO unmet requirement (US\$)
Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan (1 January to 31 December 2013)	Syria	177 274 711	128 619 150	53 804 971	42	74 814 179
Regional Response Plan 2013	Iraq	13 320 881	3 473 480	766 940	22	2 706 540
	Jordan	87 431 984	9 200 000	8 282 682	90	917 318
	Lebanon	367 655 865	30 962 000	4 023 489	13	26 938 511
	Turkey	37 125 000	2 400 000	917 006	38	1 482 994
	Egypt	10 297 366	500 000	214 000		286 000
	Funds not yet allocated				1 988 863	

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

WHO Emergency Support Team for the Syria crisis
emst@who.int

WHO Syrian Arab Republic country office
wrosyria@syr.emro.who.int

WHO Jordan country office
wrjor@jor.emro.who.int

WHO Lebanon country office
wroleb@leb.emro.who.int

WHO Iraq country office
wriraq@irq.emro.who.int

WHO Egypt country office
wregypt@egy.emro.who.int